

These Three.

1 Cor. 13: 13.

There are three lessons I would write—
Three words as with a burning pen—
In tracings of ethereal light,
Upon the hearts of men.

Have Hope. Though clouds environ now,
And gladness hides her face in scorn,
Put thou the shadow from thy brow;
No night but hath its morn.

Have faith. Where'er thy bark is driven—
The calm's disport, the tempest's mirth—
Know this: God rules the host of heaven—
The inhabitants of earth.

Have love. Not love alone for one,
But man, as man, thy brother call,
And scatter like the circling sun,
Thy charities on all.

Thus grave these lessons on your soul—
Hope, Faith and Love—and thou shalt find
Strength when life's rudest surges roll,
Light when thou else wert blind.

What to Read And What to Teach Children.

BY J. R. LAIR.

I was just reading in a secular paper "what to teach boys" and I wondered, why not teach the girls about the same things. If we are "to teach our boys to read good books," I can't see why the girls may not be in the same class.

There is so much trashy literature spread broad cast over the country now-a-days that it is exceedingly hard to keep it from the children. There are generally some pictures and engravings to first attract the attention, and if children are disposed to read at all, they will read about the illustrations, and it is singular, what attractive writers we have in this country. They know just what and how to write to attract, and hold the attention, and it is true that sensational writers, are so successful and attractive now-a-days, that it is hard to break off, once we have contracted a habit of reading after them. Publishers take time by the forelock, and advertise their books and story papers that will be ready by the time the warm weather is over and the evenings begin to get longer sending free copies to almost every family in the land. Surely "the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light." Well now listen a little. The nights are already cooler, the evening, are getting long enough, that very soon people will want to resume their reading again, and the children will want to, and should be entertained. But you do not need to buy any books or extra papers—unless it were a map of the oriental countries—you have all the books you need, in the house already, to interest the family during the coming winter. You will probably guess that it is the Bible. Well that is right. But you say you have read so much to the children and told them so much about their little angel brothers and sisters, and their angel grandfather and grandmother, and all about heaven; all that I know that they seem to be tired of hearing it. Well yes I don't blame them either. It makes me time tired too, to think of it. To tell them that they have angel brothers or sisters, why, if they are bright children, and have read the Bible any, no wonder they are tired, for they know the story is not true. It is no better than a "Fairy tale." And what you know about heaven is not very much. Of course you know there is a heaven, and that God and the angels dwell there, and that there is everlasting joy and peace there, and when you have told that once, you have told all you know, for you can't find out anything more—just now at any rate. Now don't think I am treating the subject lightly not for the world, but I would deride your ignorance a little, and at the same time tell you how to learn something, and teach your children at the same time.

Now just take your Bible, and begin with Genesis—I do not intend to be very definite about the chapter and verse, for I want you to find it yourself. For instance, as the creation is an old story, begin with God's covenants with Abraham, and how they were renewed to Isaac, Jacob, and David, and what is involved in this covenant. I give it as my opinion if you will follow up the subject well and investigate thoroughly you and the

children will probably find some things you never thought of before.

But that is not all, and the only subject in the Bible worthy of investigation. But as the Exodus of Israel is an old one, and the children are reasonably well acquainted with it, I shall not trouble you to go over it again, but I want you to look up the next gathering of Israel. To give you a little start, just read carefully the 11th, chap. of Isa, and if you are apt in scripture you can get started from there. You might find out from what countries the gathering is to be from, and if you are right careful you can learn the route they—or some of them at least are to travel, and before you get through with the subject you will know how long the ones gathered will remain in the wilderness. And what will be done when they get back to the promised land again, &c, &c.

Now as you did not need to by any new books, you might take a little of the money and buy a good map of Palestine and adjoining countries, and when you get that, you will be ready to study the land south of Jerusalem, that never has been inhabited—but that "shall be lifted up and shall be inhabited in its place;" also the great desert east of Jerusalem, or northeast of the Dead sea, for it "shall blossom as the rose," (Isa 35) "for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert, and the parched ground become a pool." And again the Lord says, "Behold I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth: shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert." You might with a good map, locate the probable course of these "new" rivers, and may other like things that would not only be interesting, but very instructive.

Well now after you learn all you can about the gathering of Abraham's seed, just please turn your attention to what the Lord is going to do for them—just study the nine last chapters of Ezk, get the whole family to studying it, and see what kind of a building you can form of it. Let me say this much—if you will get out anything like an approximate correct measurement you will find it to be the largest building that ever was or ever will be built. If you can measure and describe the building in one winter you can do more than some people have done in years to study.

Well now do you know that there is to be another division of the land of promise, you will have found the conditions of the next division ere this, now just compare it with the Johnaie division, and see how unlike they are—notice that Joseph will have two portions, and that this great temple is to be built in the central strip.

These and many other things are subjects for older persons to grapple with, but when you have solved them all, get the children to find what mountain is to be divided, and move apart, and leave a great valley, and which way the waters will run that spring forth in the valley, and the result accomplished by a portion of the flow.

Now find out how many nations will go up to Jerusalem to worship, and what will be the plague of those who do not go up to worship. Find out who will reign during a thousand years, immediately succeeding the dispensation and over who will they reign? Do not think you know it all yet. Find out what the condition of the earth will be at that time. About how long may it be inferred that people will live at that period of the world? And now if you have found out all these things, and many more I trust, you will among them have found that all these promises, covenants, conditions, blessings, and appointments were all made to and for Abraham's children. It might be interesting to you now to find how the Gentiles are to have any part in the Divine arrangement. Paul will be the party to consult more particularly in this matter. Find out if you can, whether the Gentiles are to receive anything that the Jews are not promised. If not, satisfy yourself then, that what the Jews are to receive, that you can receive and nothing more—for "Salvation is of the Jews."

Now if you have been an observer in you studies thus far, you have seen how faithfully the Lord always performed what He said He would do—this then ought to convince you that he is able and will perform the things that are yet unfulfilled, and if your faith is not strengthened, I

shall wonder what it would take to strengthen it, and if your children have not received or acquired faith, and are about ready to embrace the truth, I should wonder very much. One thing you and the children have learned before this, and that is, that you are not going off to heaven just as soon as you thought before. If ever you get to heaven it will be after that glorious reign with Christ a thousand years on earth, and what is beyond that period, the Bible says so little that it is all mere conjecture—that however will all be revealed in due time. Do I believe in the literal fulfillment of all these things? Most emphatically, I do. It is the only way I can harmonize the Bible—and then it makes it all so reasonable, and clear, and comprehensive, and if you will just look at it that way and teach your children that way, they will look at the Bible as a book describing events within their range of comprehension, instead of a dark, deep mystery that none but the inspired can understand. If you will teach the children to read the Bible just like they do other books—understanding words and phrases the same way, they will understand the Bible without any trouble.

Teach them that mountain, hill, valley, desert, plain, way, highway &c, &c, means in the Bible just what Webster's dictionary says it does, and applies just to the same things in the Oriental countries that it does in America. And if you will diligently apply yourselves all winter this way you will be wiser and better in the spring, and if you shall want new subjects for another winter, if we all live we can very probably find them.

Olathe Kan.

Converted.

SELECTED. Old aunt Rachel lived in a white-washed cabin. Her master was an Infidel. She prayed year after year that God would shine into his heart and show him what a blessed Saviour Jesus is; and how at last God heard her prayers and sent him home a Christian. O (said the) Misses! If you only knowed how my heart cried when Master used to go on so about the Bible, you wouldn't blame ole Rachel for shouting sometimes now, when I sees him study the blessed Book so, day after day. O de blessed Lord has done great things for us, Misses. And now, if master could see his way into the church, seems to me I could say like ole Simion, "Lord now thou lets me die in peace. But I hope he's comin right by an by." May-be you could tell him which the church of Jesus is, aunt Rachel. "Ah yes, misses if they'd only ask the ole nigger, she'd tell them how to get into the church." "What directions would you give?" "asked the lady," "O, I'd just say, do as my blessed Jesus did. He was baptized Himself, and he wants all his people to be baptized. Let them go down into the water, 'cordin to His commandment." "Then you are a Baptist aunt Rachel?" "Yes missis, I was baptized more an thirty years ago." "But we are studying now to see if the Methodist church is not the true church of Jesus Christ. What do you think about it, aunt Rachel, don't you think there are as many Methodists in heaven as there are Baptists?" Why no, misses, bless your heart the Baptists has been going there ever since the days when John baptized in Jordan and they tell me that the Methodists just begun a little while ago. The Methodist is a mighty good people, misses; but they han't been going to heaven so long as the Baptists have. I hope master will hunt out in that blessed book till he finds the good old way." "Your master has invited the Methodist minister and his lady to come over and spend the day with us, and they will make a Methodist of him if they can." "Ah, misses, the minister is a mighty good man. I love to hear him preach about Jesus. I love to hear him sing and pray, and they shall have the best dinner ole Rachel can fix up, but they isn't goin' to make master be a Methodist, I knows that. 'How do you know that aunt Rachel?" Cause misses, master goes by the Book, an' if the Methodist church was in the Book people would have found it long time before this.—J. W. Merrill, Kan., Nov. 15th, '88.

It is impossible to mentally or socially enslave a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the ground work to human freedom. —HORACE GREELY.